

REFERENCE RELATING TO THE ANTICIPATED ACQUISITION BY ALPHATHETA CORPORATION OF SERATO AUDIO RESEARCH LIMITED

Notice of extension of inquiry period under section 39(8A) of the Enterprise Act 2002¹

1. On 15 May 2024, the Competition and Markets Authority (**CMA**), in exercise of its duty under [section 33\(1\)](#) of the Enterprise Act 2002 (the **Act**), referred the anticipated acquisition (the **Merger**) by AlphaTheta Corporation (**ATC**) of Serato Audio Research Limited (**Serato**) (together, the **Parties**) to its Chair for the constitution of a Group of CMA Panel Members (the **Inquiry Group**). The period within which the report on this reference was to be prepared and published (the **reference period**) was due to expire on 29 October 2024.
2. On 16 May 2024, the Parties made a request to the CMA in accordance with [section 39\(8A\)](#) of the Act for a specified period of time to be disregarded for the purposes of the reference period, as the Parties were considering next steps, including whether to proceed with the CMA's investigation or whether to abandon the arrangements which are the subject of the reference.
3. The CMA considered the request and reasonably believes that the proposed arrangements might be abandoned.
4. Accordingly, the CMA has decided, pursuant to [section 39\(8A\)](#) of the Act, that a period of three weeks is to be disregarded for the purposes of the reference period and the reference period will therefore expire on 19 November 2024.

Martin Coleman
*CMA Panel Chair*²
16 May 2024

¹ Published pursuant to sections [39\(8B\)](#) and [107\(2\)\(c\)](#) of the Enterprise Act 2002.

² Exercising powers under the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013, [schedule 4](#).